

Exh. No. 1116

Doc. No. 1632W (61)

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"Extract from Entry from Marquis KIDO's Diary, 16 July 41"

At 4 p.m. Marquis MATSUDAIRA telephoned me to say that the resignation 'en bloc' of the cabinet had been decided at a special Cabinet meeting. I had my audience with the Emperor from 4:10 p.m. to 4:20 p.m. Prince KONOYE tendered the general resignation of his Ministry at 9 p.m. I proceeded to the Palace in response to a summons from His Majesty to receive an Imperial order as to the incoming Cabinet as follows: "The Premier has tendered the general resignation of his Ministry *we have ordered the Lord Chamberlain to invite the President of the Privy Council and the ex-Premiers to gather at the Palace and* ask their opinions in order to reply to our question as to who the suitable person I talked with the Chief Secretary to arrange tomorrow's procedure and went back home at 10:30 p.m.

- * In regard to the selection of a Premier of the next Cabinet
- * the Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal will

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木戸侯爵日記

昭和十六年七月十六日分

七月十六日
永 曇

午前十時出勤

十一時ヨリ十二時進拜謁

二時ヨリ山下奉文中將ノ御進謁アリ陪聽

ス

四時松平侯ヨリ電話ニテ内閣ハ五時半ヨ

リ臨時閣議ヲ開キ總辭職ニ決セリト

四時十分ヨリ二十分進拜謁右ノ趣ヲ言上

ス

四時四十九分發電車ニテ歸京一旦歸宅鶴

子孝澄同伴ムワシニ於ケル富田豊二郎氏

ノ招宴ニ臨ミ小松侯夫妻令息令嬢甘藷寺

伯夫妻ト會食ス

七時二十五分新橋發電車ニテ松平ノ秘書

官長同伴運子ニ至リ直ニ葉山御用邸ニ入

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1.

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2.

九時 近衛公参内 辞表ヲ捧呈ス

九時十分 御召アリ 後繼内閣ニツキ 左ノ如ク 御命ヲ拜ス

近衛内閣總理大臣ハ 辞表ヲ差出シタ
後繼内閣主班者ヲ 選定スルニ付キ 宿
院議長及元總理大臣タリシモノヲ 侍從
長ニ命シテ 招集サセルカラ 内大臣ハ 是
等ノ人々ノ意見ヲ 徴シ 適任者ヲ 奉答セ
ヨ

秘書官長ト 明日ノ打合ヲナシ 午後十時半
退出 逗子別荘ニ入ル

鶴子孝彦來逗

"Extract from Entry from Marquis KIDO's Diary, 17 July 41"

I left for Tokyo by train, leaving at 8:44 a.m. and proceeded to my office. I met HARA, President of the Privy Council, WAKATSUKI, OKADA, ABE, YONAI, HAYASHI and HIROTA at 1 p.m. Mr. KANROJI, Vice Lord Chamberlain, delivered an Imperial message, and then I expressed my opinion as follows: As stated by the Vice Lord Chamberlain, I received the Imperial Order to give a reply after gathering Your Excellency's opinions.

"The Emperor has ordered me to gather your opinions before I make a reply to the Throne regarding the Premier of the succeeding Cabinet. I, therefore, would like to have your frank opinions on this matter as I had on a previous occasion. Of course as you all know this is not a formal conference and no resolutions will be passed, but I should like to have a heart-to-heart talk in a friendly atmosphere. Our utterances in this place are expected to be kept confidential."

A copy of the Premier's resignation was circulated for reference.

WAKATSUKI questioned me as to the purpose of the resignation and the diplomatic problems (i.e. the clash of opinions between the Premier and Foreign Minister). ABE stressed the necessity of having Prince KONOYE as Premier; OKADA recommended Prince KONOYE, as a person good for the military and capable of exercising general control over all lines of political circles; HAYASHI held the same opinion as ABE and OKADA; HARA did not differ from the above-mentioned; HIROTA laid stress upon the reinforcement of G.H.Q. and the formation of a military Cabinet, but he consented to the opinion of the rest upon my explanation of the establishment of G.H.Q. In the palace YONAI said no other person than Prince KonoYE would do, that Prince KONOYE was the most suitable man to cope with the present difficulty. WAKATSUKI supported Prince KONOYE though his attitude was not positive. We recommended Prince KONOYE unanimously and closed our meeting at 2 p.m. The Emperor and Empress returned to Tokyo from their Hayama Villa. I visited the Emperor from 3:30 p.m. to 4:10 p.m. to report on the progress of our meeting, while the Lord Chamberlain telephoned to Prince KONOYE to request his presence at the Palace. At 5:05 p.m. Prince KONOYE proceeded to the Palace to receive the Imperial command to form a cabinet. After his audience, I met and talked with him. OHASHI, Vice Foreign Minister, visited me at 5:50 p.m. to explain the draft understanding between the U.S.A. and this country.

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木更谷日記

昭和十六年七月十七日金

七月十七日(木)

疊

(午前八時三十分發ニテ上京直ニ出陣
午後一時西二ノ門ニ原相相、若槻、關田、阿部、米
内、赤坂田ノ諸氏參集西酒田ニ於テ協議ス
甘藷寺侍従次長ヨリ重曾ノ傳達アリ次イデ余
ヨリ左ノ如ク陳述ス
只今侍従次長ヨリ御話ガアリマシタ通り陛下
ヨリ侍ニ閣下方ノ御意見ヲ承リタル上奉答ス
ル様御下命ガアリマシタ就キマシテハ前山ノ
通り充分御話合ヲ願ヒ隔意ナキ御意見ヲ承ル
趣意ヲ御一所ニ御願ヒ致シタ次第デアリマス
又事ノ性質上申スマテモナイコトト存シマス
ガ會議テハアリマセンカラ決等ハ取リマセン様
テ懇談的ニ御話合ヲ願ヒ意ヲ盡シ度ト存シマ
ス
申ス趣モナイコトデアリマスガ此處テノ御發
言ハ此處限リト云フコトニ御願ヒ致シマス、
此時ノ爲メ先ツ近衛總理ノ時表儀ヲ同覽、

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若槻氏ヨリ辭表ノ趣旨、外交上ノ問題（意見ノ相違等）ニツキ質問アリ

阿部氏ヨリ此際近衛公ニ再降下必要ノ意見聞
取アリ岡田氏ヨリモ軍ニモヨク政治ノ各方面
ノ線ヲ線指シ得ル人トシテハ近衛公以外ニハ
ナシトノ理由ニテ近衛公ヲ推選ス林氏モ雨氏
ト同意見ナリト通ベラル原樞相モ同様ノ意見
ナリ尺廣田氏ハ大本營強化軍政的內閣ヲ方説
セラレシガ余ヨリ大本營官中ニ設置ノ組織ヲ
説明セシ結果近衛公ニ同意セラル米内氏モ近
衛サシテナケレバ駄目デスヨトノ發言アリ
若槻氏ハ消極的ノ態度ナリシガ同意セラル
即チ益々一致ニテ近衛公推選ニ決シ二時終會
ス

三時二十分衆山ヨリ雨陛下近幸處迄送

三時半ヨリ四時十分近衛閣僚等ノ退還ヲ仰給
告車上ク此間侍從長ヨリ近衛公御召ノ電話ヲ
掛ク

五時五分近衛公參内大命ヲ拜ス御前ヲ退下
後直歸ス

五時五十分大橋次官來廳日米關係等ニツキ説
明ヲ請ク